



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the
United States Attorney
for the
District of Nebraska
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May 21, 2009

United States Attorney Joe Stecher and the Lincoln Police Department, Lancaster County Sheriff's Department, Lancaster County Attorney's Office, and the Nebraska State Patrol announce the following information for the attention of the media:

Event Triggering this Release:

On May 21, 2009, a Lincoln man was sentenced to a total of 13 years and one month (157 months) in federal prison for possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute and two counts of using, carrying, or possessing a firearm in connection with a drug offense. John Pohlman was sentenced to three years and one month (37 months) in prison on the drug charge and two consecutive five-year (60 months) sentences on the gun charges. He was also ordered to forfeit two guns and ammunition to the United States. Pohlman will serve five years on supervised release after completion of his prison sentence. He was also ordered to pay special assessments totaling \$300.

On September 8, 2008, Pohlman was stopped by Lincoln Police officers and arrested on an outstanding warrant. During a search of his vehicle, officers found a backpack on the front seat which contained two plastic baggies with a total of 19.39 grams of methamphetamine; a digital scale; and a 9mm handgun with sixteen 9mm rounds of ammunition in the magazine. Officers searched the trunk and found a 12-gauge shotgun loaded with five 12-gauge rounds and one .32 caliber round. Another 9mm round was found in Pohlman's pocket.

Name of Defendant: John Curtis Pohlman

AKA:

Age: 23

City of residence: Lincoln

Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): Count I: Possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1).

Count II: Use, carry, or possess a firearm and ammunition, to wit: a 9mm handgun and seventeen 9mm rounds, during or in furtherance of a drug offense in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)(1)(A)(I). Count III: Forfeiture of the 9mm handgun and 9mm ammunition pursuant to Title 18, United States Code., Section 924(d) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c). Count IV: Use, carry, or possess a firearm and ammunition, to wit: a 12 gauge shotgun, five 12 gauge rounds and one .32 caliber round of ammunition, during or in furtherance of a drug offense in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)(1)(A)(I). Count V: Forfeiture of the 12 gauge shotgun and ammunition pursuant to Title 18, United States Code., Section 924(d) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c). The possible penalty for Count I is up to 20 years in prison and a fine of up to \$1,000,000. Following any term of imprisonment, there would be a term of supervised release of not less than three years. There is also a \$100 special assessment. The possible penalty for each of Counts II and IV is not less than five years nor more than life imprisonment consecutive to any other prison term, and a fine of up to \$250,000. Following any prison term, there would be a term of supervised release of not more than five years. There is also a \$100 special assessment for each count. The possible penalties for Counts III and V is forfeiture of the guns and ammunition to the United States.

Specific Location of Alleged Crime: Lincoln

Location of Arrest: Lincoln

Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug: 19.39 grams (approximately 2/3 ounce) of methamphetamine.

Others Charged in Same Scheme: none

Relevant Dates:

Date of Alleged Crime: On or about September 8, 2008

Federal Arrest Date: December 22, 2008

Date Complaint Issued:

Indictment Returned Date: November 18, 2008

Initial Appearance Date: December 23, 2008

Plea or Trial and Date(s): Pled guilty on March 4, 2009

Sentencing Date: May 21, 2009

Next Court Hearing Type and Date: none

Assigned Magistrate Judge: The Honorable David L. Piester

Held without Bond, or Released from Custody: held without bond

In Continuous Custody Since: December 22, 2009

Assigned District Court Judge: The Honorable Richard G. Kopf

Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release: SEF